

Factbox	
Prices start from :	£ 3,619
Travel between :	12 Feb 25 and 12 Feb 25
Board Basis :	As per Itinerary
Duration :	14 nights
Book by :	30 Jun 24
Includes :	Return Flight from Heathrow Private transfers from and to the airport 1 night stay at Parque del Lago Boutique Hotel with Bed & Breakfast 2 nights stay at Laguna Eco-Lodge on Half Board 3 nights stay at Arenal Manoa Village Resort with Bed & Breakfast 2 nights stay at Koora Hotel Monteverde with Bed & Breakfast 5 nights stay at Olas Verde Hotel with Bed & Breakfast 1 night stay at Finca Rosa Blanca Coffee Plantation Resort with Bed & Breakfast Shared bus from & to Tortuguero Tortuguero Village Tour Tortuguero Canals (includes National Park entrance) Arenal Volcano National Park guided hike and entrance fee La Fortuna Waterfall guided visit and entrance fee Tenorio Volcano National Park guided tour and entrance fee Zip lining experience Guided Coffee/Coco/Sugar Cane Farm visit in Monteverde Authentic community experience: ceramic and cooking classes in a house-museum



Detailed Itinerary

Highlights: Tortuguero - Arenal - Monteverde - Nosara - Santa Bárbara

Hotels Featured:

Parque Del Lago Boutique Hotel 4*

Laguna Eco-Lodge 4*

Arenal Manoa Village Resort 4*

Koora Hotel Monteverde 5*

Olas Verde Hotel 3*

Finca Rosa Blanca Coffee Plantation Resort 4*

Itinerary:

Wed 12 Feb 2025: Arrival Day

Arrive at San Jose International Airport and meet your driver, who will take you straight to your accommodation to relax, refresh, and get ready for your Costa Rican Adventure.

Accommodation

Parque del Lago Boutique Hotel

Located 20 minutes from the Juan Santamaria International Airport and near San Jose city.

Your comfortable room will include air-conditioning and free Wifi, there is also a restaurant on site.

Thu 13 Feb 2025: Journey to Tortuguero National Park

Today youll have an early start at 6am, diving straight into your once-in-a-lifetime adventure in Costa Rica.

After just twenty minutes of driving out from San Jos towards the Caribbean lowlands, you will have an early introduction to Costa Ricas natural highlights, as you pass by the magnificent Braulio Carrillo National Park, with a rich variety of wildlife and through agricultural farmland with pineapple and banana plantations. After another half hour, you will descend into the lowlands, and youll be able to notice the transition between two of Costa Ricas key climates, the Cloud and the Rainforest. Breakfast will be taken in a restaurant during your drive through the countryside. At around mid-morning, youll arrive at the pier to board a river boat taking you along the beautiful canals of the Tortuguero National Park, one of the most important nesting sites in the world for the green sea turtle. Its territories protect not only the turtle-nesting beach, but also the surrounding forests, canals and lagoons. There is a peaceful atmosphere which attracts nature lovers, yet the area never has the feeling of being touristy. It is the ideal place to start a trip to Costa Rica, with early opportunities to spot some of the most famous wildlife.

Along the way, your guide will talk you through the delicate eco-system of the area, giving you insight into how the waterways, the forest and the wildlife coexist so that you have an in-depth understanding of the environment you are experiencing. Your accommodation tonight is in an Eco-lodge built on a narrow strip of land 650 feet wide, between Tortugueros main lagoon and the Caribbean Sea, the Laguna Lodge rooms, reception, restaurants, bars and swimming pools are located in 15 acres of trees and exotic plants which are home to numerous birds and butterflies. There are amazing views of the lagoon and direct access to the beach.

Accommodation

Laguna Lodge Tortuguero

Meals

Breakfast

Fri 14 Feb 2025: Explore Tortuguero National Park

Today you have a full day to explore the Tortuguero area, you will take guided boat trip the jungle-fringed waterways behind the beach are teeming with bird, animal and insect life. More than half of Costa Ricas bird species can be found here along with monkeys, sloths and for the lucky alligators, tapirs, ocelots, peccaries and ant-eaters. You will have free time to hike to Tortuguero Hill for a spectacular view of the area the walk is a short but sharp climb, with a serious reward at the top. Or paddle out on a canoe, exploring the canals to really get in touch with the incredible nature the park boasts. Visit the little town of Tortuguero with its museum dedicated to the green turtle, and explore the miles of pristine Caribbean beaches to see- when in season- nesting green turtles, the worlds second largest sea turtle. The turtles nest here between July and October.

Accommodation

Laguna Lodge Tortuguero

Meals
Breakfast

Sat 15 Feb 2025: Volcanoes and Hot Springs

Volcanoes and Hot Springs

After breakfast today you will leave the beautiful Caribbean coast via the beautiful rivers of the North Caribbean, and arrive back at the pier to jump into the bus for your drive to the northern plains. In 1968 the Arenal Volcano, which until then was unassuming and dormant, erupted and the lava and ash completely buried the community of Pueblo Nuevo. Little by little, the spectacular eruption attracted tourists and La Fortuna has transformed from a simple agricultural area to a tourist hot spot. Arenal is a large symmetrical volcano built upon layers of ash, rock and lava and is almost 1700 metres high.

Although it is now dormant, the underground heat from the volcano produces natural hot springs perfect for swimming in and enjoying the gorgeous warm waters. Spend the afternoon basking in the waters, drinking in the spectacular landscape around you before heading to your accommodation for the evening, the resort village of Arenal Manoa with its extensive gardens and marvellous views of the Arenal Volcano, located on a working dairy farm. Surrounded by gardens, pastures and animals, this is a wonderful place to relax, and enjoy the peaceful gardens, take a tour of the farm for an insight into the daily operations of a traditional Costa Rican farm. There are 80 comfortable and spacious bungalows all with bright tropical dcor, a small garden and private terrace. Nestled in the tropical gardens, the bungalows all feel very private and offer panoramic views of the volcano. Its large swimming pool is made up of 3 connected pools, and there a jacuzzi and a swim-up bar. Surrounded by gardens, pastures and animals, Arenal Manoa is a delightful place to relax, guests are encouraged to enjoy the peaceful gardens which are full of insects, lizards and abundant birdlife. Take advantage of the daily tour of the dairy farm for an insight into the operations of a traditional Costa Rican farm, and even get chance to help with the milking! There are 80 comfortable and spacious bungalows all with bright tropical dcor, a small garden and most have private terrace. Nestled in the tropical gardens, the bungalows all feel private and offer panoramic views of the volcano. Its large swimming pool is made up of 3 connected pools, a jacuzzi and a swim-up bar. With Costa Rican owners and authentic Costa Rican hospitality, Hotel Arenal Manoa is the eco destination with no artificial ingredients!

Accommodation
Hotel Arenal Manoa
Meals
Breakfast

Sun 16 Feb 2025: Waterfalls and Local Lunches

Today you will explore the area around Arenal Volcano a La Fortuna waterfall visit and a volcano hike is on the itinerary, and is one of the most memorable days of the entire adventure. The day starts late at 11 am, so you have time to enjoy a nice breakfast, explore the surroundings of the hotel and relax a little before your pick up. Wear your swimming gear and take a leisurely hike down 500 steps that lead the way to a magnificent waterfall. On the way down, your guide will point out the various examples of the stunning wildlife that can be found, as you stroll easily, taking you time to drink in the gorgeous views ahead of you. At the bottom of the steps, enjoy a refreshing dip in the lagoon, splash under the waterfall and enjoy one of the most beautiful swimming experiences of your life.

After you've dried off, your lunch will be a truly authentic experience with the Rodriguez Family. They will host and cook you an unforgettable, traditional lunch that you can enjoy relaxing on the riverside, experiencing local culture and of course a delicious and freshly brewed cup of Costa Rican coffee. Round off the day by visiting the imposing Arenal Volcano National Park, where you will set off on a stunning guided hike around its base while learning everything there is to know about the iconic Costa Rican landmark, from the eruptions and the old lava flows. Take in the bizarre sight of the rainforest reclaiming the old, dried-up lava flows, and try to spot some of the rainforest wildlife, before being driven back to your accommodation.

Accommodation
Hotel Arenal Manoa
Meals
Breakfast & Lunch

Mon 17 Feb 2025: Local Costa Rica -Monterrey village

Today you'll visit Monterrey, San Carlos, near La Fortuna where the Arenal Volcano is located, and you will explore the community with a local, who can give you an insiders view of the area. The small village you'll be visiting is a thriving community and your walk will take you to visit the people that keep life running in rural Costa Rica. You'll meet the shoe mender, the leather worker (for belts, hats, etc), you'll visit the school, the plaza, the bakery, the pulperas (small convenience store), the cantina or bar , and active members of the community manufacturing souvenirs and recycling products. At the end of your tour, you will head to a small local hotel to have one of the most delicious coffees you've ever tasted, with a local snack. Your adventure through Costa Rica continues as you drive to Tenorio Volcano National Park, best known for the beautiful Ro Celeste, whose light blue waters are caused by a reaction between sulphur and calcium carbonate in the river. Primary cloud forest and rainforest covers the park, all incredibly rich with flora and fauna, gorgeous rivers, waterfalls and thermal hot springs.

Accommodation
Hotel Arenal Manoa
Meals
Breakfast

Tue 18 Feb 2025: Lake Cruise and Travel to Montverde

Today you will travel from La Fortuna to Monteverde, crossing the Arenal Lake. First you'll travel by land to the lake, where you'll board a boat for a one-hour cruise to Monteverde. This is the fastest way to travel, but it is also an incredibly scenic journey where you can admire beautiful views of mountains, sky and the colossal Arenal volcano. When you reach the other side of the lake, you will be picked up and driven to your hotel in Monteverde. It might be a transfer, but it's also an adventure! Your hotel is the Eco Lodge Koora, a luxury ecolodge in the heart of the cloud forest, with just 10 cosy suites and bungalows the boutique hotel is the perfect nature retreat.

With stunning treetop views only the natural beauty of Monteverde can provide, you will feel the magic of the cloud forest as you sip coffee or enjoy a late-night drink on your private balcony. You will sleep in the treetops, literally! The suites and bungalows seamlessly integrate with the surroundings and you'll be able to gaze at this natural oasis from the floor to ceiling windows with the chirping and singing of birds as the soundtrack. The rooms have handcrafted furniture made by local artisans, comfortable beds, and hot showers and some have kitchenette. After an action-packed day, you can dine at the Restaurant Kir with its delicious fresh local produce and amazing views.

Accommodation
Koora Hotel
Meals
Breakfast

Wed 19 Feb 2025: Forest Canopies Zip line and Cuisine

In the morning, you will have the experience a canopy tour with an added adrenaline rush as you swing from platform to platform on the longest zipline in Latin America! Enjoy the unique, spectacular panoramic views that can only be seen from this lofty perch. A walk through a cloud forest in Monteverde reveals a lush garden of mosses, ferns, flowers and epiphytes growing thickly on every tree. Clouds drift in and settle among the slopes, providing the plants with the continuous moisture that they require. Dangling roots and vines sweep across the trails, while the sounds of birds and other creatures echo throughout the forest, this is the magical cloud forest experience on foot and in the air!

Today you will visit the small and charming town of Santa Elena, filled with tasty restaurants and folksy artisan shops The afternoon will begin with a coffee you will learn all about the wonderful history of coffee in the world, and in Costa Rica, how coffee influenced the development of the country, you see all the processes involved in the production of coffee, from the seed to the delicious final product. You will also learn about chocolate production in Costa Rica, and the traditions surrounding it, and then you'll learn about the less familiar sugar cane; growing, harvesting and production through the centuries. Of course, there will be delicious tastings of all the products!

Accommodation

Koorra Hotel
Meals
Breakfast

Thu 20 Feb 2025: Local crafts and Cooking

Today, you'll transfer to Nosara, on the Nicoya Peninsula known as the land of yoga and surf. The Pacific beaches are wide and sandy with long surf breaks, it has a calm and relaxed atmosphere. Enjoy wandering the small, quaint towns of Nosara and Guiones, take a dip in the amazing waves of the protected beach, and spot the wildlife in the forest and perhaps even the nesting Olive Ridley turtles on Ostional Beach between July and February. Today you will be visiting the community of Guanacaste, and the village of Santa Barbara in Santa Cruz, where there is a traditional house which has become a museum. It is a casona, a type of building that has been in existence for over 100 years. There is a workshop here, where you will see how the famous Guaitil ceramics of the area have been produced for centuries, and how the Pre-Columbian Chorotega tribe used to make their utensils. There will be a cooking class with a local cook, to learn how to make local dishes of the region, and you will learn about the local musical instrument the Marimba, and the traditional music of the area. Tonight you will be staying at the Olas Verdes hotel, a small Costa Rican boutique hotel dedicated to preserving the natural environment and supporting the local community.

Located in Nosara, a world-class surfing destination, with Playa Guiones featuring 4 miles of beach break that catches any swell direction year-round. There is a flourishing wellness community of local artists, organic farmers, an array of renowned yoga studios, and an abundance of adventure and ecotourism activities in the area, to help you achieve the pura vida. The accommodation is in buildings each named after a different region of Costa Rica, and each suite is decorated with authentic crafts from the designated areas. All suites have a living room, bedroom, and bathroom. Olas Verdes restaurant, El Manglar, serves your favorite Tico or fusion dishes prepared with freshly harvested seasonal ingredients, including a variety of seafood caught by artisanal fishermen, dishes are always cooked to order and accompanied by in-house-made bread, and dressings, fresh herbs and vegetables from local farms. The hotel has a yoga deck and a salt water pool. The beach is accessed via a path and is about a 5-minute stroll.

Accommodation
Olas Verdes Hotel
Meals
Breakfast

Fri 21 Feb 2025: Relax on the Beach

For the last few days of your holiday, enjoy a relaxing time at the beach! Fill your time surfing, practicing yoga, or perhaps visiting the village of Ostional. Located on the western coast of the Nicoya Peninsula, the small fishing village of Ostional is known for its unspoiled nature and fascinating nesting turtles. Enjoy the crystal-clear waters lapping at the beautiful beaches, creating the perfect habitat for these protected animals. The beach of the National Wildlife Reserve is a rare natural wonder, with thousands of sea turtles coming to lay their eggs in the black, volcanic sand between July and February. Three types of turtles inhabit the waters here; leatherbacks, green turtles, and most famously, the Olive Ridley sea turtles.

Accommodation
Olas Verdes Hotel
Meals
Breakfast

Tue 25 Feb 2025: Coffee Plantations Finca Rosa Blanca

Today, you'll say goodbye to the coast and head back to the Central Valley, and your final stay is at a charming, sustainable boutique hotel on an organic coffee plantation, which is a global leader in responsible tourism. Finca Rosa Blanca is a friendly boutique eco-resort set within a coffee farm plantation only 25 minutes from the international airport. All 15 rooms are individually designed and have a Jacuzzi bath along with spectacular views. There is a strong emphasis on sustainability here and a tour of the coffee farm is available. The Restaurant offers classic Costa Rican food and Bar Buho has comfy sofas set around a fireplace. There is also an infinity pool and spa.

Accommodation
Finca Rosa Blanca Coffee Plantation

Wed 26 Feb 2025: Departure

Today, the time has come to fly home. You'll be transferred to the airport and waved off by your driver. We hope you've had an amazing time in Costa Rica, and felt as if you know the country, its culture, and its people intimately, and haven't simply been a tourist, but have traveled like a local.

Prices & Departures:

Deposit £650pp
Y51055 Heathrow from £3619pp
Y51168 Dublin from £3779pp
Y51122 Edinburgh from £3819pp
Y51125/31 Glasgow/Newcastle from £4149pp
Y51134 Bristol from £4259pp
Y51117/48 Manchester/Birmingham from £4285pp

Terms & Conditions:

Based on 2 Adults & 2 Children (2-11 Years)